

The Alexandria Gazette

WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 12.

BRIEF PARAGRAPHS.—*"Mallum in Ferro."*—Three soldiers were arrested in Washington, yesterday, for passing themselves off as detectives, entering people's houses, searching them, &c.—Seventeen deserters, from various U. S. regiments, were arrested in Washington, yesterday.—Gold, in New York, yesterday, 125½.—The trade on the Chesapeake and Ohio canal has a much more lively appearance.—Batteries are being erected for the defence of the harbor of Belfast in Maine.—H. Winter Davis addressed a large meeting at Portland, Me., on Saturday last; his speech was mainly in favor of the policy of enlisting and using colored men in the prosecution of the war.—The "naval fight" off the coast of Maine, turns out to have been practice firing by a U. S. gunboat.—Nebraska and Dakota territories have been exempted from the draft, on account of their exposure to Indian depredations.—A girl sixteen years of age, of Hardy county, Va., has been arrested as a spy, and carried to Wheeling.—The mortality among the wounded Confederate prisoners, at David's Island, near New York, is reported to be on the increase.—It is reported that Col. Waring, of Prince George's county, Md., who was recently sent to Fort Delaware, has died within a day or two; but we do not know that the report is correct.—A Court of Inquiry is asked for in relation to the burning of the steamer Ruth, and the loss of the Government money by that disaster; it is said, that it is thought, the money or a portion of it may be recovered, it having been tied up in thick bundles.—Quantities of ice and lemons have been shipped to the U. S. forces before Charleston both by the government and individuals.—Saratoga has not seen such a "season" as the present, for many years.—The investigation in the case of Gen. Milroy is going on and the Court may be in session yet for a month.—The statement about the recent importation by blockade runners into Wilmington, N. C., of large quantities of arms and munitions of war, &c., is said to be much exaggerated.—It is said that the Prince of Wales has purchased Newstead Abbey, Lord Byron's old home.—"Treating," is still prevalent at elections in Kentucky, judging from a bill recently furnished by a tavern keeper at one of precincts, for 5000 drinks and 1500 cigars.

The articles in the Raleigh (N. C.) Standard, in favor of proposing terms of peace, &c., heretofore referred to, are said, in the National Intelligencer, to have been written by "Hon. Mr. Donnell, formerly a member of Congress from N. C., assisted by Mr. Satterthwaite of the Governor's Council, and submitted to and approved of by Gov. Vance."

A train was fired at on the Orange and Alexandria Railroad near Burke's station, yesterday. A report that a guerilla has been caught and hung by persons employed in repairing the road, is not authenticated, although currently circulated.

We are still having the most delightful weather, with cool mornings and evenings—and the signs of the approaching fall of the year.

FROM CHARLESTON.

Yesterday morning the Government received a dispatch dated the 17th instant, from a distinguished military officer in Tennessee, stating that the Chattanooga Rebel of the 16th (probably an "extra," as the 16th was Sunday) announced that the Bombardment of Charleston on Saturday was awful; that the firing from Gilmore's land batteries, on Morris Island, and from the monitors was chiefly directed against Sumter. The combined land and naval forces of the Federals seemed to be engaged. The information published in the Rebel was received at Chattanooga from Charleston by telegraph, and the fight was going on when the paper went to press on Sunday. The officer who communicates to the Government the contents of the Rebel, says the editor, instead of making any boast about the result, or manifesting the least jubilant feeling over the situation of affairs at Charleston, exhibits the most positive evidence of gloom, evincing a clear knowledge of what the result of the present attack upon the forts before Charleston must probably be—the fall of the city. The Rebel states that the Ironsides and all the monitors were not only in the action, but that the whole fleet and a large number of transports were inside the bar during the engagement.

MOSBY'S LATEST RAID.—We are indebted to a gentleman residing near Falls Church, and not far from Bailey's Cross Roads, for the annexed account of the raid of Mosby on Sunday last:—[Nat. Int.]

"On the 16th, just about daylight, Mosby and fifty-four of his men were seen about a mile from Fort Buffalo, with three Union soldiers and some horses with harness that they had captured from a train of sutlers early in the night before. They disappeared suddenly in the woods for the time being, but about nine o'clock at night Mosby, with fifteen men and these three Union prisoners, made their appearance at the northwest end of Falls Church village, and turned to the left of the Leesburg turnpike, on the Lewinsville road, through by the contraband camp on Major Nutt's place; then through by the Brick Chapel to the turnpike by Fort Buffalo, down the turnpike one mile below Bailey's Cross Roads; then back the same route to the railroad. Mosby and six men dismounted and approached the contraband camp, when the guard halted him; he gave some reply and moved on, when the guard shot and one of the Union prisoners made his escape. Mosby then fell back and moved through Falls Church up the turnpike to a little tavern, where they stopped, and was telling the keeper of the hotel where they had been, and that they could go where they pleased, when a detachment of the California cavalry came up and drove them beyond Difficult run four miles from Dranesville."

President Lincoln still resides at the Soldier's home. Every evening at about six o'clock he can be seen leaving the Executive Mansion at the head of a mounted escort of fifteen or twenty soldiers. His friends entertain solicitude about his health.

In Birmingham, England, a general plan has been adopted to convey compressed air as a motive power for driving machinery in cities, in the same manner as gas is supplied for general illuminating purposes, instead of being made in small retorts at each public building, manufactory, &c. In carrying out this idea, it is proposed to concentrate all the waste steam power in Birmingham, and employ it in compressing air, which is to be conveyed in pipes to drive machinery in the different workshops.

The Boston Post says that Paron Stevens and others have applied for authority to establish a new national bank in New York, near the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

DEFERRED ITEMS.

Dr. D. W. Wainright, Surgeon U. S. Army, died on the 6th inst., on board the flag-ship Black Hawk at New Orleans, of typhoid fever. Dr. Wainright was a son of the late Bishop Wainright, of New York.

Any one who has seen the royal families of Europe, must have been impressed with the truth of the common saying that very little intellect is required to govern a nation. Constant intermarriage has produced a mild form of idiocy.

The Philadelphia papers say: "The arrival of substitutes at the barracks average from 80 to 90 per day. The substitutes sent away last week were for the 23d and 90th regiments. The 200 sent last evening were for the 83d Pennsylvania. It is reported that 54 deserted after arriving at Alexandria last week." We expect the last statement is incorrect or an exaggeration.

A heavy wind and rain of last Sunday evening did considerable damage East, we observe by the papers. Several vessels were capsize and stove along the Jersey shore and about New York Bay; many fruit and other trees blown down and buildings struck by lightning.

A stoker on board her majesty's screw frigate Glasgow, at Portsmouth, was recently sentenced to three months' imprisonment for skinning alive a small terrier dog belonging to another man serving on board the same ship. The only excuse the brutal fellow offered was that he wanted the skin of the dog to make a tobacco pouch.

George Penn Johnston, of San Francisco, associated with others, has planted a field of cotton near Mazatlan, which promises to be a great success.

The New Jersey peach orchards are beginning to yield their delicious fruits in great abundance—several thousand baskets having already reached New York by the Camden and Amboy Railroad.

The whole number of asteroid-planets, now discovered, is seventy-eight. Some of those discovered last year have but recently received names. In two instances, astronomers have departed from the custom of selecting names from the ancient classical mythology, and have resorted to the Scandinavian mythology.

In Perth, Scotland, a maiden lady, sixty years of age, was recently brought before the police court, charged with causing a nuisance by keeping eleven cats with their increase.—The magistrate ordered all but one kitten to be killed. Before leaving, the accused exclaimed, "Vengeance is mine, saith the Lord, and I will repay."

FROM EUROPE.

The steamship Asia, from Liverpool on the 8th, via Queenstown on the 9th inst., has arrived.

The London Globe announces, apparently upon authority, that no authentic intelligence has been received giving any assurance to the statement that the American conscription was a menace to England. It says there is no interruption of the general amity between the two countries. The Confederate loan, on the 7th, was quoted at 27 a 25 per cent discount.

The three Powers have agreed to send common notes to Russia. The iron ram building for Russia in England has been hurried off to Russia incomplete.

The Vienna and Warsaw railroad has been seized for transportation of troops for one week.

The cotton market closed firmer and upward. Breadstuffs quiet. Provisions firm.

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